

Fig 1: Leaves of *C. gileadense* and *C. wightii*

Singh 1987, 1991, 1993 and Singh 1983), hence this sighting is of special interest.

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33. *VENTILAGO BOMBAIENSIS* DALZ., RHAMNACEAE
— A NEW DISTRIBUTIONAL RECORD FOR TAMIL NADU

(With one text figure)

In the course of floristic exploration of Tirunelveli hills of Southern Western Ghats, the authors collected an interesting specimen of the genus *Ventilago* Gaertn. (Rhamnaceae). Critical analysis and perusal of literature confirmed it as *Ventilago bombaiensis* Dalz. (Fig. 1.). It is rare (Ramachandran and Nair 1988; Keshavamurthy and Yoganarasimhan 1990; Vajravelu 1990) and endemic (Ahmedullah and Nayar 1986;

Sasidharan and Sivarajan 1996; Nayar 1996) and has so far been recorded in the Western Ghats of Karnataka, Kerala and Maharashtra states. The occurrence of this species in Tirunelveli hills, Tamil Nadu with the evidence from FLORA OF TAMIL NADU, VOL. 1 (Nair and Henry 1983) and the present communication, therefore, forms a new distributional record for Tamil Nadu. A short description of this species is given with an

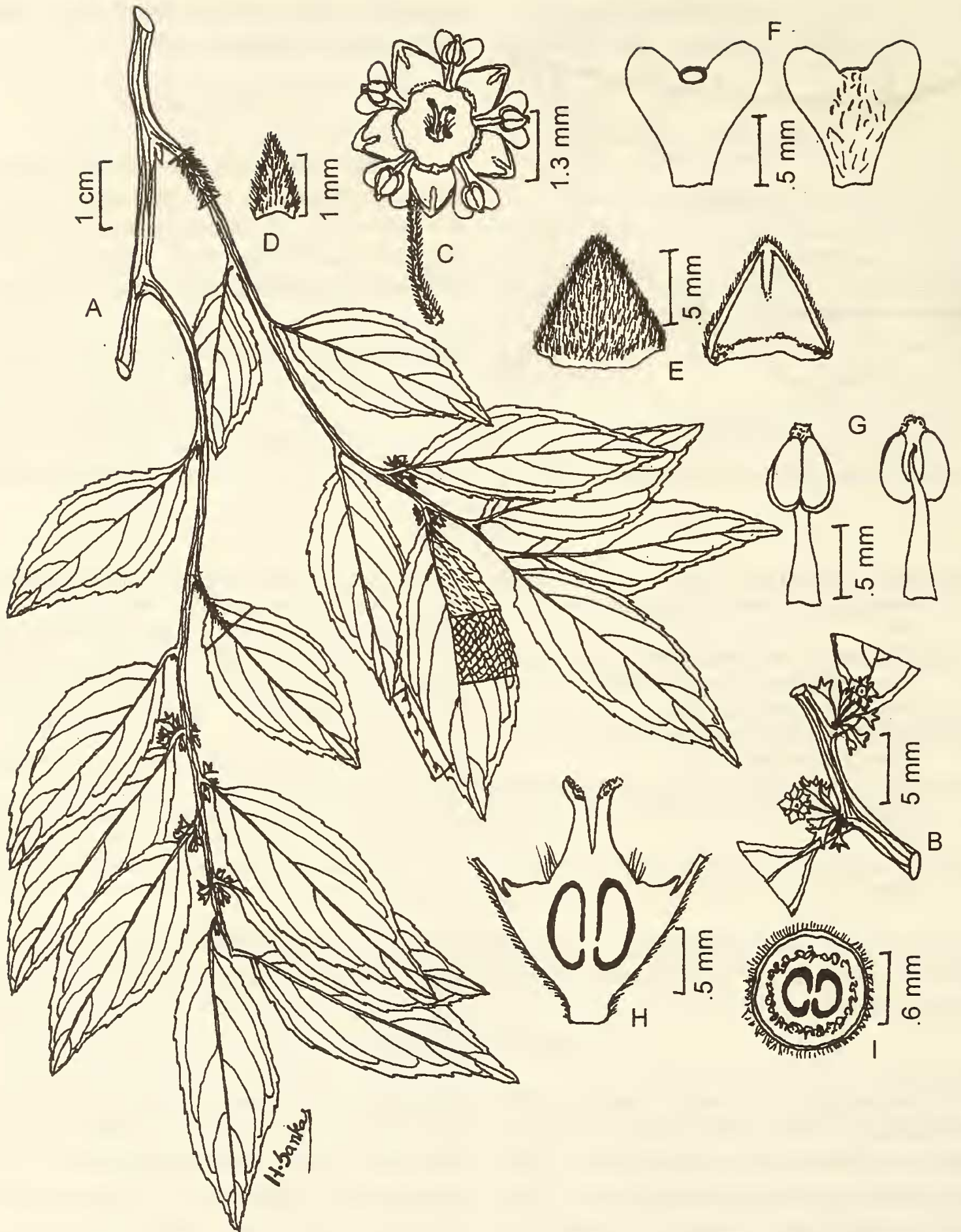


Fig. 1: *Ventilago bombaiensis* Dalz.,
 A. Twig, B. Inflorescence, C. Flower, D. Bract, E. Sepal (outer & inner),
 F. Petal (inner & outer), G. Stamen, H. L.S. of Pistil, I. T.S. of ovary

illustration, to facilitate field identity. The voucher specimens have been deposited in the St. Xavier's College Herbarium (XCH).

Ventilago bombaiensis Dalz. in Hook, Kew Journ. Bot. Gard. Misc. 3:36. 1851; Cooke, Fl. Pres. Bombay 1:239. 1902 (1:218. 1958 rep. ed); M. Lawson in Hook. f., Fl. Brit. India 1:631. (rep. ed); Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1:218. 1997 (rep. ed); Ramachandran and V.J. Nair, Fl. Cannanore 99. 1988; Ahmedullah & Nayar, Endem. Pl. Indian Region 1:181. 1986; *Smythea bombaiensis* (Dalz.) Baner. & Muker. Indian For. 96:206. 1970; *Ziziphus bombaiensis* (Dalz.) Bedd., Ic. t. 114, 1871.

Flowering: April - July.

Specimens examined: India, Tamil Nadu, Tirunelveli district, Kudamadi, 27.iv.1998, Manickam, 15592 (XCH); Kallimalai, 2.vii.1999, Manickam, 19945 (XCH).

Field Notes: It occurs rarely along exposed, moist deciduous forest at 700 m (Kudamadi) and 850 m (Kallimalai) altitudes. Easily recognized

in the field by the crenate-dentate margin of the leaves, and flowers in axillary fascicles.

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34. ON THE OCCURRENCE OF *POGOSTEMON TRAVANCORICUS*,
FAMILY LABIATAE AND *ARGYREIA CHOISYANA*,
FAMILY CONVULVULACEAE IN TAMIL NADU

During a botanical exploration in the Tirunelveli hills, Tamil Nadu, we came across two plant species that had not been collected by earlier workers. They are not included in the FLORA OF TAMIL NADU, India. Ser. I: Analysis.

Pogostemon travancoricus Bedd. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 3: 637. 1885, Gamble, Fl. Pres. Madras 1135. 1921. (Labiatae).

Fl. & Fr.: April-June.

Alt.: 1,400 m.

Specimen examined: Agastyamalai, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu. Manickam, 19075 (XCH).

Note: This species may be endemic to the

southern Western Ghats. Though it is reported from Western Ghats, Henry *et al.* (1987) do not include it in the FLORA OF TAMIL NADU, India. Ser. I: Analysis. Therefore, it is an addition to the flora of Tamil Nadu.

Argyreia choisyana Wt. Hooker, Fl. Brit. India 4: 190. 1885; Gamble, Fl. Pres, Madras 908. 1921 (Convolvulaceae).

Fl. & Fr.: December-February.

Alt.: 400-600 m.

Specimen examined: Kalakad-Sengaltheri, Tirunelveli district, Tamil Nadu, Manickam 11732 (XCH).

Note: Gamble reported its occurrence